

CITY OF SUNNYVALE

The Heart of Silicon ValleySM

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Statement on Our City Values and Public Service

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Christy Lessner
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Councilmember

As the “Heart of the Silicon Valley,” Sunnyvale is a thriving community that is a highly desirable place to live, work, and play. Comprised of approximately 150,000 residents and about 9,000 active businesses, we are a community that emulates the spirit of all American ideals particularly worth noting now:

- Valuing our individual experiences and supporting and protecting people of any race, religion, ancestry, ethnicity, ability, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity;
- Honoring cultural and religious traditions; and
- Valuing and embracing the diverse backgrounds, race, nationalities, ancestries, and ethnicities.

Sunnyvale has a large representation of immigrants from all over the world that are part of our thriving community. Per the Census 2015 American Community Survey (for 2011-2015), over 48% of Sunnyvale’s population is made up of foreign-born residents representing over 25 countries, with about 45% speaking languages other than English. Our local economy reflects both the diversity of our community, as reflected in the rich mixture of restaurants, small businesses, and availability of wide-ranging diverse goods and services. This is matched by our widely recognized global technology businesses with offices in Sunnyvale that depend on the talent and skills of members of the local and international community, such as: Amazon, Apple, GoDaddy, Google, LinkedIn, Lockheed Martin, Microsoft, Plug and Play Tech Center, Tesla, Yahoo!, and many more that contribute to the innovation economy.

We strongly believe that diversity and inclusiveness are strengths that are part of the foundation of Sunnyvale’s incredible local history. Recognized as the “nation’s safest city” (Smart Asset) and the “#1 best performing cities” (Milken Institute), Sunnyvale’s thriving, diverse community and local economy help shape the world’s innovation, and are key components of what make Sunnyvale a great place to live and work. We are proud of Sunnyvale’s record of leading the innovation economy and recognize the significant role that our immigrant population has played in advancing these efforts.

Likewise, Sunnyvale's municipal practices embrace these principles and our employees uphold them each day. The City's General Plan highlights our commitment to safety for all community members and specifically states the goal to ensure a safe and secure environment for people and property in the community by providing effective public safety response and prevention. Through strong local partnerships, the City's service delivery ethic ensures that we serve the needs of all community members with respect, professionalism, dignity, and fair and equitable treatment, regardless of race, religion, ancestry, ethnicity, ability, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Specifically, all City employees are responsible to serve all members of the public with courtesy, impartiality, fairness, and equality under the law at all times¹. This model of inclusion and integration is critical to the general welfare of the City, and supports and protects our residents, business community, and quality of life. Indeed, this philosophy is the underpinning of the remarkable standard of public service that the community continues to receive and expect.

For these reasons, the City of Sunnyvale affirms its long history of inclusiveness and its public service ethic of helping our City continue to thrive as a culturally diverse community where all are welcome, safe and acknowledged.



Glenn Hendricks
Mayor

Authorized by a unanimous vote of the full City Council on February 7, 2017

¹ Administrative Policy, Chapter 1. General Management and Chapter 3. Personnel